**The "Bio-rama" Project**

Around the globe there are many different biomes. From the deserts of Asia, North America and Africa, to the tundras of Greenland and Europe, the Earth is divided into many regions based on the climate of the region and the organisms that call that region home. You are going to study a biome and present your findings to your class in a diorama and a short paper. You will also do a presentation describing your project to the class.

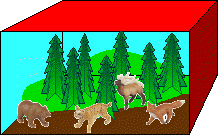
**Objectives:**

* Create a diorama representing a snapshot of the biome you have been assigned
* Write a short report to accompany your diorama.
* Present your project to the class in a short presentation

Your diorama should be a model of the plant life, animal life and landscape typical to the biome you have been assigned.

A diorama is a picture created using a shoe box that has been placed on its side. The bottom of the shoe box serves as the background of the picture. The sides of the shoe box serve as the sides of the scene. Look at the picture below to get a better idea of what a diorama looks like.

**[Coniferous Forest Diorama](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/diorama/forest/" \t "_top)**

[[](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/diorama/forest/)](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/diorama/forest/" \t "_top)  
This diorama is a forest scene depicting trees and animals found in a coniferous forest biome (a biome where it is cool and dry, with cone-bearing trees).

**Please remember, this is not your parent's or family's project. It is your project. While they may assist you, it is your job to do the majority of the work. It is also your job to do the research…by any means necessary. In other words, no deadline will be extended because of what you say is your family's fault. You must take ownership of your education. If a problem arises, speak up and see if other arrangements can be made (stay after school to research, etc.)**

My Biome: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Due Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Diorama Guidelines and Requirements:**

Your diorama will be judged based on the following criteria:

* **Accuracy**- your diorama should be a fairly accurate representation of the biome you have been assigned. In other words, if your diorama represents the savannas of Africa there should be no pine trees, maple trees, or bears because these organisms aren’t found in that environment.
* **Completeness-** your biome diorama should show representations of plant life (if any plants are found in your biome), animal life, and important landforms or bodies of water typical of your biome. The scenery should be complete with a background as well as finished sides. The cardboard from the box should not be showing.
* **Neatness**- your diorama should be neatly assembled with no excess glue, tape, paint, etc. showing.
* **Information Supplied to Viewer-** your diorama should have a notecard or other type of placard (use your resources to find out what a placard is) with the name of your biome neatly written or typed in large bold letters along with a brief description of what is being viewed, a particular area of the world in which your biome can be found, the general climate (general seasonal temperatures and precipitation amounts) of your biome, and a brief description of the types of plants and animals found in your biome.

Example:

**An Arctic Biome**

Arctic biomes are located around the Arctic Circle, near the North Pole. This region is typically cold and can have temperatures as low as -90°F during its long winters. Summers in the Arctic are very short, but temperatures in some lower latitudes may reach 36°F. Some areas of the Arctic are considered cold deserts because they receive less than 10 inches of precipitation each year. The cold, dry arctic air means this biome can only support animals adapted to cold, windy climates like the Alaskan malamute (shown below). Plant life, like the saxi frage shown below, also has adaptations to help it survive the Arctic’s harsh conditions.

**Report Requirements:**

After reading your report, readers should understand the characteristics of the biome you have been assigned. You will share information about the following aspects of your biome:

* Information about the typical climate throughout the year for locations within your biome.
* Several locations around the globe where this biome is found and what the locations of these places have in common. For example, are they generally located near the equator? Can they be found near the same latitude? Are they all coastal areas alongside mountain ranges?
* The typical plant life usually found in your biome and the types of adaptations the plants have that make them able to do well in your biome.
* Several forms of animal life found in your biome and the types of adaptations these animals have that make them able to do well in your biome.
* Information about humans living in areas of the world where your biome is found such as: how the environment affects how they dress, what they eat, the local natural resources they may use to survive, and how the environment and climate affect the ways the people make their money. If your area is usually not inhabited by humans, choose one animal that lives in your biome and discuss how its life is affected by the environment (what it eats, where it lives, etc.).

**All reports are expected to be typewritten or handwritten (not both) in blue or black ink. Reports that are sloppy, have words crossed out, etc. will not be accepted.**

**PAPERS SIMPLY PRINTED FROM THE INTERNET REPRESENT PLAGIRISM, NOT A REPORT, AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

**Please do your own research and take the time to write the author's ideas in your own words. Keep track of the resources you use so that you can give the authors credit at the end of your paper.**

**Your report will be evaluated for:**

* **Thoroughness-** you should add sufficient details to explain ideas and information fully.
* **Grammar and Mechanics**- you should check your paper for punctuation, spelling, and grammar errors just as you should everything you write.
* **Neatness**- your paper should be presented either in a report cover or stapled neatly once in the upper left hand corner. Do not staple the entire left side of your report. There should be no words scratched or crossed out. There should be no stray marks or lines on pages.
* **Format**- you should have all of the required pieces of your report.

I am giving you the link to my School Notes page. On that page you will find links to possible sources of information for your project.

<http://new.schoolnotes.com/messix/>

Have fun learning and creating!